

Connecticut State Conference of NAACP Branches

www.naacp-ct.org

June 16, 2011

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Faith Jackson

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: WT Docket 11-65

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

As President of the Connecticut Branches of the NAACP, I am writing today to urge you to support AT&T's recently announced merger with T-Mobile.

Throughout Connecticut, the NAACP continues to be a leading voice in addressing local, state and national issues facing our African American, Hispanic and other minority communities. We believe that all people deserve equal rights and improved opportunities throughout Connecticut. In accordance with this belief, I am convinced that AT&T's recent acquisition of T-Mobile offers a number of beneficial opportunities for dynamic economic and community development within historically under-represented communities in Connecticut.

In line with the mission and goals of the NAACP, I recognize the vital importance of reliable mobile networks throughout both my constituent communities and Connecticut at-large. The ever-growing necessity of reliable mobile networks is undeniable; across many communities, cell phones and mobile devices have already begun to replace home phones and landlines. This does not, however, diminish the demand for reliable communication networks and only highlights the need for the development of modern mobile infrastructure. I believe that the AT&T/T-Mobile merger is an important and vital step toward this growing need.

Having reviewed the preliminary plans for expansion by AT&T and T-Mobile, I believe the improved coverage realized through the announced merger would offer better communications and improve safety throughout the neighborhoods and communities we support.

In addition, this merger brings with it the opportunity for much-needed economic stimulus and job creation. In a time of high unemployment, the minority and under-represented communities often hit hardest by the current economic predicament stand ready and eager to put their expertise and knowledge to work developing, building and installing the hardware to support AT&T and T-Mobile's burgeoning network.


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Federal Communications Commission

I sincerely hope you join Connecticut NAACP in recognizing these potentially broad and positive community impacts from the announced merger and support AT&T and T-Mobile throughout this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Scot X. Esdaile", written over a light blue circular stamp.

Scot X. Esdaile

President, CT State Conference of NAACP Branches